

**MAHONING COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION
HON. BETH A. SMITH**

**LONG DISTANCE
PARENTING TIME SCHEDULE
[ORC 3109.051(F)(2)]**

THE BEST PARENTING TIME SCHEDULE IS YOUR OWN PLAN. HOWEVER, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that if parents are unable to agree on the issues addressed below, this schedule is to be in effect in cases where the travel time exceeds two (2) hours:

1. HOLIDAY VACATION

	EVEN YEARS	ODD YEARS
WINTER (CHRISTMAS) VACATION	NON-RESIDENTIAL PARENT	RESIDENTIAL PARENT
EASTER (SPRING) VACATION	RESIDENTIAL PARENT	NON-RESIDENTIAL PARENT

2. SUMMER VACATION: Children are entitled to share one-half (½) of the summer vacation (from the day after classes end until one week before classes begin) with each parent. (If the children are not of school age, the parents shall follow the summer vacation schedule for the school district in which the residential parent lives.) Parents shall determine which half of the summer their children will be with them. The residential parent shall notify the non-residential parent with the date of the beginning of summer vacation by March 15th; the non-residential parent shall confirm the schedule within four weeks. If parents are not able to agree on a schedule for the summer, the following rotation shall be observed:

	EVEN YEARS	ODD YEARS
1st HALF	NON-RESIDENTIAL PARENT	RESIDENTIAL PARENT
2nd HALF	RESIDENTIAL PARENT	NON-RESIDENTIAL PARENT

3. SCHEDULING ADDITIONAL TIME

(A) If the non-residential parent plans to be in the area of the children's residence and desires to have some time with them, at least two days advance notice shall be given to the residential parent.

(B) A once a month weekend with the non-residential parent may be arranged if the time the child will be traveling does not exceed two hours one way. In such a situation (eg. Mother's Day, Father's Day), the following shall be observed:

- The residential parent will be notified at least one week in advance.
- The non-residential parent will bear the entire cost of transportation.

4. FINANCIAL CONCERNS

(A) Regardless of which parent the child resides with, any child support ordered always continues as designated.

(B) In all situations except number 3 (above), each parent bears the responsibility for costs of transportation of children to his or her home.

5. OTHER CONCERNS

(A) **Keeping in touch with your children:** When the distance between parents' residences makes face-to-face contact infrequent, the importance of telephone, e-mail and written communication becomes even more important. Such communication is to be encouraged and assisted by both parents when the children are with them. If parents cannot agree, two telephone calls per week, no later than 9:00 P.M., and no longer than thirty (30) minutes, shall be scheduled, with the non-residential parent setting the time and day. Parents shall promptly update each other as to any changes in telephone numbers unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

(B) **Helping your children adjust:** Parents shall have their children prepared physically and emotionally for travel. It is the responsibility of both parents to encourage their children to enjoy the time with both parents and to love and respect mother and father.

(C) **Sharing your time with your children:** Parents shall give their children appropriate attention and care while the children are with them, and avoid recurring situations (other than work) when children are left with someone else for extended periods. Parent's shall consult with each other before making arrangements with day care and sitters.

(D) **Religious practices to remain consistent:** Any changes in the children's religious practices shall be made only upon agreement of parents and approval of the Court.

(E) **Traveling outside the state:** Either parent may travel with their children outside the state of his or her residence for a period less than forty-eight (48) hours without notice to the other parent or the Court. For travel that will exceed forty-eight (48) hours, the traveling parent shall notify the other parent of such travel plans in writing at least seven days prior to the trip. Said notice shall, at a minimum, include the scheduled departure and return dates, travel arrangements and a telephone number where the child(ren) can be reached in case of an emergency.

(F) **Moving WITHIN OR OUTSIDE the State of Ohio** In the event that the residential parent decides to relocate within or outside the State of Ohio, said parent shall, at least sixty (60) days prior to the planned move, give written notice to the court of the intention to relocate by filing a notice of intent to relocate form issued by the court. A time-stamped copy of the notice shall be furnished to the court's assignment commissioner at the time of filing. Upon the filing of said notice, the court shall mail a copy of the notice to the non-residential parent unless the residential parent objects to said mailing for reasons of alleged domestic violence or abuse or neglect of a child. The court will not normally schedule a hearing on the notice unless the non-residential parent request the same in writing. The purpose of any such scheduled hearing shall be to determine whether it is in the best interests of the child(ren) to revise the parenting time schedule. If after sixty (60) days, no objection has been raised by the non-residential parent, the court may issue an entry modifying the parenting time as requested by the residential parent. (Notice of Intent to Relocate forms are available from the court.)

(G) **Changing from Long Distance to Local SCHEDULE:** In the event that this Long Distance Schedule has been followed, and either parent moves to a location within two hours traveling distance one way, the Court's Local Parenting Time SCHEDULE shall be binding on the parents and shall be adopted by the Court.

(H) **Modification:** Modification of this order is possible upon demonstration of the need for such change and is subject to approval of the Court. Disputes over the application or interpretation of this order shall first be submitted to a family mediator.

(I) **Records:** Pursuant to R.C. 3109.051(H), (I), and (J), and unless otherwise ordered by this Court, the nonresidential parent shall be entitled to access to any records involving the child(ren) including but not limited to school, medical and day care records on the same terms as the residential parent.